

ELECTION AND REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the Applicant must elect a single embodiment/species for prosecution. The Examiner identified the following

Groups/embodiments/species:

Group 1 (Types of Shapes)

Fig. 1, drawn to a Species 1 golf club iron;

Fig. 2, drawn to a Species 2 golf club iron;

Fig. 3, drawn to a Species 3 golf club iron;

Fig. 4, drawn to a Species 4 golf club iron;

Fig. 5, drawn to a Species 5 golf club iron; and

Group 2 (Type of Insert Material)

a. Species 1 (Composite); and

b. Species 2 (Metal).

The Examiner further indicated that it is uncertain what claims are generic.

For continuing the prosecution on the merits, Applicant elects with traverse Group 1, the species set forth in Fig. 2 with the composite material of Species 1 of Group 2. It is the Applicant's belief that at least claims 1-2, amended claim 6, 8-14, 16-18, amended claim 21, 23-26, 28, amended claim 29, 31-34, and 36, read on this species, with at least claims 1, 17 and 29 being deemed generic. This species is directed to a golf club iron having a U-shaped composite insert such as shown in FIG. 2.

Consequently, claims 3, 4, 5, 7, 15, 19, 20, 22, 27, and 30, have been withdrawn from consideration on the patentability of the generic subject matter. However, Applicant reserves the right to file one or more continuing and/or divisional applications directed to any subject matter not claimed in the current application.

The Examiner has indicated that upon allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which if written in dependent

form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by
37 CFR 1.141

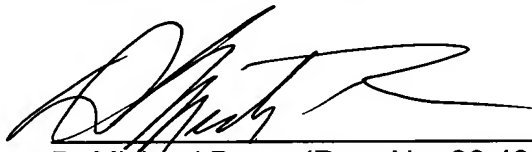
Conclusion

Based on the remarks set forth above, Applicant believes that the claims of the subject application are acceptable for consideration on the merits. Should the Examiner have any further concerns or believe that a discussion with Applicant's agent would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the agent at the number below.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. However, if a fee is required, please charge the required fee to Acushnet Company Deposit Account No. 502309.

Respectfully submitted,

May 21, 2004
Date


D. Michael Burns (Reg. No. 38,400)
(508) 979-3563

Customer Number: 40990